

Chapter **10****PUTTING YOUR
KNOWLEDGE TO WORK**Notes**Objectives**

After completing this chapter participants will be able to:

- ▶ Identify areas for improvement in their Emergency Response Plan (ERP) *or* other safety procedure.
- ▶ Decided upon actions they can take as a follow-up to this class.

Introduction

Throughout this training, we have given the requirements of a hazardous materials emergency response plan and good safety practices. Sometimes there is a difference between the laws and what employers have actually done. As a wrap-up to this training, you'll discuss issues to examine when you go back to your own job. If you find parts of your employer's plan or procedures need to be improved, get involved to make your job safer!

Exercise A: Making Your Emergency Response Plan Work

- 1) Do you think that your employer's Emergency Response Plan is good enough? How would you improve it? (Be specific.)

- 2) Do you think your co-workers are properly trained to respond to a hazardous materials emergency? What level of training should they have received?

- 3) Do you think that your employer has the proper equipment that you and your co-workers would need to respond to an emergency? If not, what else do you need?

- 4) If you find problems, what will you do to get the problem fixed? Who will you ask to help you—and what will you ask them to do?

Exercise B: Making Your Safety Procedures Work

When you answered the questions in the exercise in Chapter 1, you identified health effects you were experiencing and other health and safety concerns. An instructor will now re-post the report for that exercise.

Next, you will be given two sticky-notes to use as "official ballots." Walk to the posted report and vote for the problem(s) you most want to see addressed by putting a sticky note by the issue. You can vote for two different issues, or weight your vote by putting both on the same thing.

After tallying all the votes, you will be given an issue to work on as part of a safety committee. NOTE: Don't worry if your "favorite" doesn't get assigned to you, the answers focus on the process, not technical answers.

You are part of a health and safety committee convened because of the concern of you and your co-workers for this issue. As part of the committee, please answer the following two questions:

- 1) Who are you going to talk to or get involved to help you solve this problem? What will you tell them or ask them to do?

- 2) What other resources do you need to solve this problem?

The following question is to be answered individually:

- 3) Name one thing you will do when you return to work as a result of taking this class.

Put Knowledge to Work

Key Points **10**

- 1) The "HAZWOPER" law covers all workers, whether OSHA or the EPA enforces it.
- 2) Under the law, employers have the responsibility to protect the lives and health of their workers.
- 3) Much of these responsibilities are met through a good Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and other written safety procedures
- 4) Get involved in emergency planning and safety on your job.